WATSON TELLS WHAT TO DO FOR GOPHERS AND SALAMANDERS

There are two burrowing animals that do great damage to farm crops in Florida, says J. R. Watson, entomologist of the Experiment Station. One, a ground squirrel, is commonly called a "salamander." The other one is a turtle but is commonly called a "gopher." Both of these names, "salamander" and "gopher," in Florida are used in a sense different from that used in other English speaking countries.

Our "salamander," i. e. the ground squirrel,is closely related to the pocket gophers of the west. True salamanders, often called "mud puppies" or "water dogs," are slender, slippery, hairless animals. They are related to frogs but have long tails. They are found always in or near water, and feed on insects and other animals.

Both the ground squirrel and the burrowing turtle feed on vegetation.

The ground squirrel, so often incorrectly called "salamander," does much damage by tunneling through the earth a foot or so below the surface. It destroys plants, seeming especially fond of sweet potatoes, peanuts and other root crops.

The animal makes many openings in its tunnels, through which it escapes and through which escape poisonous gases that may be used against it. Therefore, it has been found that the most successful method of combating this rodent is by using a poisonous bait. The following has been used with success:

Sweet potatoes, carrots or parsnips, 4 quarts; alkaloid strychnine, 1-8 ounce; saccharine, ½ ounce.

Cut the sweet potatoes, carrots or parsnips into small half inch cross-section pieces. Moisten with water and let drain. Mix thoroughly the alkaloid strychinine and saccharine. Sift this solution over the sweet potatoes.

Another bait consists of corn poisoned with strychinine. To make this, dissolve ½ ounce of strychinine sulphate and 1 teaspoonful of starch in 2½ pints of water. Mix this with ½ pint of fine salt and ½ pint of starch. Stir thoroughly with an egg-beater, put on the fire and bring to a boil; then pour it over 8 quarts of corn.

These baits should be placed around the entrances to burrows and where gophers are working.

In spite of the numerous openings through which the gas can escape, these ground squirrels can sometimes be killed or driven off by the application of calcium cyandide in the runways. When fresh diggings are noticed open up the runway and throw into it a handful of calcium syanide and quickly cover it up with dirt packed solid. If the animal returns to that part of the runway before the gas has been dissipated it will be killed.

When these ground squirrels get into a lawn they can usually be drowned out by turning the hose into the hole.

The burrowing turtle digs a deep hole, usually with but one entrance. It can be kille dby throwing down its burrow a rag or handful of cotton waste saturated with carbon bisulphide, or a handful of calcium cyanide and at once tightly stopping up the entrance. This closing of the entrance hinders the escape of the fumes and forces their penetration of the burrow, thus killing the turtle. These turtles seem to be particularly fond of the roots of pecan trees. Therefore, they do much damage to young pecan orchards.

The best preventive of both ground squirrels and burrowing turtles ("gophers") is thorough and frequent cultivation. Neither likes to have its burrow constantly disturbed by the plow and cultivator. Sweet potatoes should follow some crop which can be given thorough cultivation so as to rid the field of these pests. Seldom will they get into a field and do much damage after the cultivation of sweet potatoes has stopped. Sweet potatoes should be cultivated as long as possible, until the vines grow so long it is practically impossible to get through with the cultivator.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO BEAUTIFY THEIR HOMES, FARMS, ROADS

Gainesville, Fla.—Prof. W. L. Floyd, assistant dean of the College of Agriculture, has formulated the following beatitudes of beautification which are particularly appropriate to Florida.

Blessed are they who plant trees and shrubs along our highways; future generations will enjoy their thoughtfulness.

Blessed are they whose homes show exterior culture to the passersby.

Blessed are they who appreciate God's gifts of birds and flowers and encourage their growth and increase.

Blessed are they who scatter flower seed and keep friends and neighbors from destroying wild flowers along the roadside.

Blessed are they who banish billboards from their property, for they are protectors of roadside beauty.

Blessed are they who keep open grassy lawns, well mowed, and green shrubbery, blending them with well painted houses.

Blessed are the citizens of Florida for their civic clubs, if they will function along civic lines, then health beauty and happiness will be theirs.

Let the Leader print that job. Satisfaction guaranteed.

CONTROL MEASURES FOR CHINCH BUGS IN LAWNS OUTLINED

Gainesville, Fla.—Chinch bugs are giving considerable trouble in St. Augustine grass lawns of the state at this time, according to J. R. Watson, entomologist of the Experiment Station. He gives the following suggestions relative to the damage and control of chinch bugs.

Chinch bugs are often severe on lawns, and if not checked will often kill out a lawn completely. An infested lawn should be kept well watered and should not be mowed too closely.

Like all true bugs the insect does its damage by sucking the juices from the plant and therefore cannot be killed by stomach poisons, but only by contact insecticides. Among the strongest of these is calcium cyanide, a black dust. It is a very strong insecticide and in using it certain precautions must be employed or the grass may be burned. The most important of these is that the grass must be perfectly dry. It must be put on in the middle of the day after th edew has evaporated and with a bright, clear sky, so that there will be little danger of rain wetting the grass before the cyanide has dissipated its strength. The cyanide must be applied very evenly to the grass and it is best to take an old broom and seep the grass immediately after application. This brushes most of the cyanide off of the green leaves down into the mat of dead leaves and stems near the ground. This serves a double purpose of preventing burning of the green leaves and getting the cyanide down where the bugs are.

Cyanide is a violent poison and one working with it should keep to the windward of the dust. Cans containing the material should be opened only where there is good ventilation.

Other good insecticides are the nicotine sulphate-lime dusts. This can be purchased already mixed or one can make his own by thoroughly mixing 93 pounds of hydrated lime with 7½ pounds of nicotine sulphate. This dust should be applied evenly over the lawn, but no burning will ensue if one happens to get it stronger in some spots than others. This should be put on thick enough so that the grass looks somewhat whiteish.

A fairly good dust may be made by mixing finely ground tobacco dust with an equal weight of hydrated lime.

The lawn may also be treated with a solution of nicotine sulphate, using for this purpose one pint of nicotine sulphate to 100 gallons of water. To make the material spread better it is best to put into the water five or six pounds of whale oil or laundry soap or a pound of calcium caseinate.

HINTS TO HOUSEWIVES

Milk should be cooked at low temperature, for there is less loss of mineral value, and the protein is more easily digested.

When giving cow's milk to babies it is better to heat the milk to 145 degrees Fahrenheit and hold it there for 30 minutes to kill impurities; but if this cannot be done it is better to bring the milk quickly to the boiling point, then cool quickly. The partial loss of mineral is a disadvantage but, for the little baby, this isn't so dangerous as the disease germs.

Milk soups should be cooked only slightly after the milk is added. Cook vegetables thoroughly before adding milk.

Cereals may be cooked in milk instead of water. This adds to the nutritive value and helps to add milk to the diet of the child who won't drink it plain.

Buttermilk, with 2 tablespoons of cream added to each glass is often taken by a child who won't drink sweet milk. This drink is good for the child, or grown up, who has a tendency to constipation.

Milk shakes are better than cocoa for a tempter with children. The shake with sweet fruit juice, rather than sugar, is best.

Care of Milk

A clean place to milk the cow, a clean udder, clean hands, and clean bucket make a good beginning.

Strain milk at once. Cool quickly and keep cool.

Make a place to keep milk and butter. Keep them there. Keep nothing else there. Ask your home demonstration agent for the plans for the "iceless refrigerator." Get your husband in a good humor and get him to improve on the plans. When you get it made use it and keep on using it until you don't know how to get along without it. It is keeping milk and butter too hot and too near other foods that causes children to say "I don't like milk. I can't stand to smell it."

Remember that scalded or Pasteurized milk doesn't stay 'pure." It needs to be protected from dirt, germs, and odors.

The right kind of feed for the cow is necessary. Otherwise no amount of care will give a clean, natural flavor to the milk.

Regularity in milking, in handling the milk, and in serving it to the family is the secret of reaping the full benefit from owning a good dairy cow.

When farmers take more interest in the work of farm boys, the boys will take more interest in the work of their dads.

How about that subscription to the Chamber of Commerce?

KEEPING TRADE AT HOME

In many towns the merchants are complaining because so much of the trade goes away from home. They find fault with the patronage of mail order houses, stores in near-by cities, etc. One trouble in many of these towns, is that the merchants do not show much enterprise in advertising. They have not informed the people of their own community and near-by places about the merits of their own goods. Naturally the stores elsewhere that do advertise a lot, and the big mail order houses whose business is built on advertising, look attractive to these townspeople.

The trade of Fernandina on the whole stays at home quite well. That is because our business men as a rule have realized the advantage of publicity. Still there are some of them who could get back much of the lost trade that goes elsewhere, if they would regularly inform the people as to the bargains they are offering.

The Community Organizations

About now the community organizations, those formed for the benefit of Fernandina, begin functioning actively again. The people who desire to become good citizens should feel satisfaction in joining as many of them as they can, and thereby helping support the good causes of the community.

We need improvement along all lines, more business, lower taxes, development of our school system, improved roads and walks, etc. Public sentiment has to be organized to accomplish these ends. Money has to be raised, and plans laid for doing these things. This calls for active organizations with plenty of members and enthusiasm. Now let us all take hold and help.

BACK IN WASHINGTON

President and Mrs. Coolidge are back in Washington after a wonderful summer and western mountains. Once more the tides of tourists will be clamoring for a chance to shake hands with him, and interrupt the work on which so much of national and world welfare depends. And once more the stream of office seekers will be wending their way to the historic White house, many of them anxious to demonstrate that the inferior qualifications they possess must be accepted because of their great political services.

Thought is stimulated by new surroundings and contracts. The president has a broader point of view by going away from his home surroundings for his rest time.

Regulation of Stunt Flights

Something will have to be done about the loss of all these brave people who are trying trans-oceanic flights and never being heard from again. It may be said that any such new form of human development involves sacrifice of life, and that people have the right to take their own risks. But such losses discourage people from using airplanes, and thus hamper the development of the art of flying.

The government will have to regulate the conditions to which trans-oceanic aviators must submit. Many will say that receiving passengers for such trips should be stopped, until a greater degree of safety is secured.

A winter cover crop will keep almost any hilly Florida land from washing.

Sell your non-producing cows to your butcher, not to your neighbor. You haven't a grudge against him.

PLANT SOME RAPE

Try a small patch of Dwarf Essex rape this fall for cows, hogs, poultry, or human green feed. It is useless to plant rape though unless you have a piece of ground naturally rich or that can be made so by addition of manure or commercial fertilizers, says W. E. Stokes, grass and forage crops specialist of the Florida experiment Station.

Rape can be planted broadcast or like turnips in close rows and cultivated. Prepare the land thoroughly before planting; cover seed lightly, using 2 to 4 pounds per acre if planted broadcast. Rape should be ready to graze in 8 to 10 weeks after planting.

Keep plenty of salt before cattle while grazinz on rape.

Pay your subscription now.

WHY BUY AT HOME?

The modern tendency in retail trade is to standardize the offerings of the stores in different places. Stores in medium sized and small cities and towns carry about the same lines as in New York or Chicago. Years ago when there was loss of this standardization, there was more justification for people going or sending to big cities to buy stuff.

In these times you can buy in Fernandina anything you want, usually at a price much below big city prices. Why then send your money away from home to build up business somewhere else, and why pay more by so doing? Keep it at home to build up your own city, and save yourself expense and high prices.

Manuscript covers, either blank or printed, on sale at the Leader office.

CITY OF FERNANDINA

STATEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1927 AND 8 MONTHS TO DATE

RECEIPTS:	MONTH	TO DATE	BUDGET
Taxes	$ 3,265.63	$28,192.39	$36,940.00
Licenses	00	408.50	2,600.00
Fines	160.00	1,785.00	1,500.00
Street Tax	00	00	50.00
Dog Tax	00	312.50	400.00
Interest on Savings	00	585.65	700.00
Tax Redemptions	10.02	1,849.60	1,800.00
Rent City Property	22.63	139.29	100.00
Miscellaneous	74.15	1,423.77	200.00
Sale of Garbage Equipment	46.18	392.36	600.00
From City Utilities	20.00	6,328.19	6,700.00
Special Assessments	00	5,861.75	11,000.00
Total Receipts	$ 3,568.65	$47,270.00	$62,590.00
DISBURSEMENTS:			
Salaries of Officers	$ 265.00	$ 4,420.00	$ 7,980.00
Police Department	215.00	2,240.10	2,460.00
Fire Department	960.19	3,872.67	3,540.00
Street Department	509.95	5,270.18	4,860.00
Sanitary Department	1,074.77	7,235.02	8,400.00
City Buildings and Parks	67.38	1,028.83	2,300.00
Cemetery, Library, Community House	75.00	600.00	900.00
Charity	00	50.00	100.00
Publicity	276.25	876.25	3,850.00
Lights and Water	547.92	4,411.76	7,200.00
Printing and Advertising	107.17	521.47	480.00
Contingent	96.36	272.97	950.00
Interest and Sinking Fund	00	13,046.66	19,470.00
Total Disbursements	$ 4,192.59	$44,865.81	$62,590.00
CASH ACCOUNT:			
On Hand General Fund Aug. 31, 1927			$ 2,464.09
Add Cash Balance January 1, 1927			1,917.01
Total Cash General Fund			$ 4,381.10
On Hand Interest and Sinking Fund			$91,136.89
Total Cash on Hand Aug. 31, 1927			$95,517.99

E. L. WOLFF,
City Auditor and Clerk.

ALUMINUM WARE AND DISHES

CLOSE -OUT- PRICES

Jones-Elder Furniture & Storage Co.

Mularkey Building - - Fernandina, Florida

And then Grandma Danced

"WE were quite alarmed about mother. She wouldn't eat, was terribly constipated, bilious, and seemed to be fading fast. We thought it due entirely to her 86 years of age. But a neighbor brought over a bottle of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin and it was really remarkable how she picked right up, and now she can even dance around with her grandchildren. Now we are never without Syrup Pepsin in the house." (Name and address furnished upon request.)

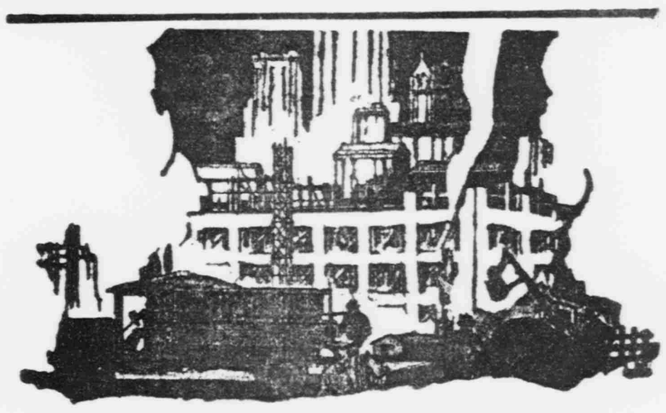
Regulates Bowels of Old Folks

Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin is so palatable, sets so well in the stomach, works so easily, so gently, so kindly with old folks as to accomplish its purpose without gripe, pain or other distress. For biliousness, sour stomach, coated tongue, constipation, and the lassitude, whether of children, parents or those in the evening of life, Syrup Pepsin is recommended everywhere. It is sold by all druggists.

For a free trial bottle send name and address to Pepsin Syrup Company, Monticello, Illinois.

DR. CALDWELL AT AGE 83

Dr. Caldwell's SYRUP PEPSIN



New Cables, Poles and Wire All Devoted to Your Service

THE big job of extending and improving the telephone service in the South is engaging the best efforts of the Southern Bell Telephone workers.

It is now estimated that 66,000 new telephones will be added to the system this year, and that the gross expenditures for additions and replacements will amount to more than $29,700,000.

Florida is enjoying a substantial share of this growth and of this expenditure, and telephone service throughout the State is more efficient, more extensive and more valuable to the subscriber than ever before.

Last year enormous quantities of material and apparatus were used to extend and improve your service. In Florida, alone, the additions and replacements required 806 carloads containing 18,399 poles, 62 carloads containing 1,016 reels of cable, 14 carloads containing 2,760 miles of copper wire, 6 carloads containing 1,235 miles of iron wire and 27 carloads containing 316,290 duct feet of underground conduit.

The success of the big program under way this year depends, in a great measure, upon your considerate co-operation, which encourages the telephone workers in their efforts to serve you better.

DAVID LAIRD, Florida Manager

SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

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O. K. CASH STORE

G. D. BAARSLAG, Prop.

General Merchandise

Recharging Batteries

Agent for the Southern States Iron Roofing Co.

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